

Walter,

For those who think the grass is somehow greener elsewhere, let them be surprised when they come to the realization that our monthly association dues are right in keeping with other complexes at similar locations. *We know, we checked.*

Yes, the renovation loan was approved by the vast majority of the home owners, but not by a 30 vote margin, but by an overwhelming 80% support. *We know, we were given the numbers.*

Who separates functional vs. need? This is a renovation loan, not a wish list. The banks and lawyers, plus us Board and Renovation Committee Members, do. We are under strict legal guidelines, for it's all a check and balance accounting from now on to pay back the loan. *We know, we have to and do go by the law.*

If we weren't trusted, we probably would not have been elected to the Board in the first place. Yet, none of us have anything to gain from not playing by the rules. After all, an upgraded community is in our best interest as well. *We know, already our base values are starting to raise.*

Meantime, for the vendors to be paid, Pat (or Ken) must sign off weekly that everyone has done the work correctly and according to the specs. Then I approve their signatures as a Board Member, and one who check on everything daily. Ross then initials the money part of all this. *We know, this is how we keep everything on the up and up.*

The bottom line vote for the renovations by the vast majority of home owners was based on simple logic. No matter their present situation, which would not change one way or another, for just \$100 more a month, we were now going to upgrade the entire community. *We know, where others failed, we succeeded.*

To really understand what going, one needs to be involved in more than attending just a few meetings here and there. They need to be on the committee level, and consistently attending and being involved. There is far more to learn from others than from speculations. *We know, just count the committees most of us are on.*

In spite of it all, there are only two people that really brought this all about. As much as some of us would like to toot out own horn, and others think their title and position gives them a free ride, the bottom line is, if it wasn't for both Ross Minion and Dede D'Aessandro, we would not be where we are today. *We know, for this is a good thing.*

As for the Newport Banning Ranch Development, some of us have been working on this for over 10 years now, when as a resident of Huntington Beach, we started fighting against the 19 Street Bridge. Meantime, the most effective way to fight something of this caliber is to stay truly informed. *We know, I was personally asked to be on the Banning Ranch Conservancy's Board of Directors.*

There is a bottom line to all this Walter, and that is our present Board and select Committees are not operating in a vacuum. We rely on each other, know what's to be done, and our doing it. When the community elected the "right" people, we developed and appointed the "right" Committees, knew the legal sources for help for the "right" answers, and always kept an open dialogue and communication to all the residents to stay aware, informed and have an avenue to answer all their questions. *We know, that is still in place.*

Thanks,

John Sisker – Vice President

Newport Terrace Board of Directors